

June 25, 1999

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Les Heringer, President Sacramento Valley Landowners Association P. O. Box 3014 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Mr. Heringer:

Thank you for your letter concerning our efforts to acquire protections for the Sacramento River corridor. I will respond to your questions in the order you raised them.

Our interest is in protecting the meander process of the Sacramento River. We have adopted the recommendations of the SB 1086 process and their technical analysis as well. Acquistions considered for CALFED funding are in the meander corridor only. This might result in some acquisition of land that is not directly adjacent to the river but which is in the meander corridor.

We believe that by providing a broader and more contiguous corridor of habitat along the river, we will reduce the need for wildlife to use agricultural land for foraging. We do not advocate trespass and we will work with you to prevent the trespass problems you anticipate.

It is possible that some parcels could become "land locked." We have not proposed any restrictions on existing or normal farming practices. We will support and encourage continued responsible farming.

The maintenance of levees along the meander corridor of the Sacramento River are maintained by local agencies and landowners. We have no intention of restricting their maintenance activities.

We also support the idea of using landowner meetings as a way to inform the public about our plans and progress. We would be happy to attend any meetings you suggest. As you know, a public information plan is required of every project we fund.

It is our intent to avoid situations where hardships are forced on farmers or other neighbors of any CALFED environmental restoration project. We would appreciate any suggestions you have to help us fulfill this objective.

**Executive Director** 

**CALFED Agencies** 

California The Resources Agency Department of Fish and Game Department of Water Resources California Environmental Protection Agency State Water Resources Control Board Department of Food and Agriculture

Federal

**Environmental Protection Agency** Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service Bureau of Reclamation U.S. Geological Survey Bureau of Land Management U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service U.S. Forest Service Department of Commerce National Marine Fisheries Service Western Area Power Administration